

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) A panel for use in a covering for architectural openings moveable between open and closed positions comprising in combination:
a set of parallel lift elements,
a set of parallel operating elements disposed in substantially the same plane as the lift elements,

at least one strip of material having first and second parallel edges, said first edge of each strip being secured to said lift elements and said second edge to said operating elements such that movement of said operating elements in a first direction relative to said lift elements causes the strip to be in a substantially flat closed position and substantially in the same plane as said lift and operating elements, and movement of said operating elements in an opposite direction relative to said lift elements causes said second edge of said strip to be moved toward said first edge in an open position.

12. (previously presented) The panel of claim 11 wherein there are a plurality of said strips disposed in parallel relationship with each other such that in the open position of said panel a space is created between said strips.

13. (previously presented) The panel of claim 12 wherein said elements are disposed vertically and said strips are elongated and extend horizontally.

14. (previously presented) The panel of claim 13 wherein said first and second edges of said strips are disposed horizontally.

15. (previously presented) The panel of claim 13 wherein said strips include reinforcement along at least said one edge and said lift elements are secured to said strips along said reinforcement.

16. (previously presented) The panel of claim 15 wherein said strips further include reinforcement along said second edge and are secured to said operating elements along said reinforcement on said second edge.

17. (previously presented) The panel of claim 13 wherein said material is flexible.

18. (previously presented) The panel of claim 13 wherein said material is semi-rigid.

19. (previously presented) The panel of claim 18 wherein said material has at least one fold line parallel to said first and second edges.

20. (previously presented) A covering for an architectural opening movable between open and closed positions comprising in combination:

an elongated substantially cylindrical roller,

a set of elongated parallel lift elements having one end secured to the periphery of said roller along a first longitudinally extending line,

a set of elongated parallel operating elements having one end secured to the periphery of said roller along a second longitudinally extending line, said second line being circumferentially spaced from said first line,

a plurality of strips of material having first and second parallel edges, said first parallel edges being secured to said lift elements and said second parallel edges being secured to said operating elements such that the lift and operating elements are disposed in substantially the same plane where they are secured to the strips of material, said operating elements being longitudinally movable relative to said lift elements to move said first and second edges toward and away from each other to move said covering between open and closed positions and said lift and operating elements as well as said strips of material being wrappable about said roller.

21. (previously presented) The covering of claim 20 wherein said material is flexible.

22. (previously presented) The covering of claim 20 wherein said material is semi-rigid.

23. (previously presented) The covering of claim 22 wherein said material has a fold line parallel to said first and second edges.

24. (currently amended) The covering of claim [[11 or]] 20 wherein said lift elements are strips of material.

25. (currently amended) The covering of claim [[11 or]] 20 wherein said lift elements are monofilaments.

26. (currently amended) The covering of claim [[11 or]] 20 wherein said lift elements are made of natural fibers.

27. (currently amended) The covering of claim [[11 or]] 20 wherein said operating elements are strips of material.

28. (currently amended) The covering of claim [[11 or]] 20 wherein said operating elements are monofilaments.

29. (currently amended) The covering of claim [[11 or]] 20 wherein said operating elements are made of natural fibers.

30. (previously presented) A covering for an architectural opening movable between open and closed positions comprising in combination:

an elongated roller of generally cylindrical configuration,

a flexible sheet of material secured at one edge to the periphery of said roller along a first longitudinally extending line of attachment,

a set of operating elements secured at one end to said periphery of said roller along a second longitudinally extending line of attachment circumferentially spaced from said first line of attachment,

a plurality of strips of material, each strip having first and second parallel edges, said first parallel edges being intermittently secured to said sheet along a first set of parallel spaced lines so as to define unsecured locations along said spaced lines, said second edges being secured to said operating elements at spaced locations along the length of said operating elements, said operating elements slidably extending through said unsecured locations and being operative to selectively move said second edges toward and away from said first edges upon pivotal movement of said roller in moving the covering between said open and closed positions.

31. (previously presented) The covering of claim 30 wherein said sheet, operating elements and said strips are selectively wrappable around said roller.

32. (previously presented) The covering of claim 30 wherein said strips are flexible.

33. (previously presented) The covering of claim 30 wherein said strips are made of a semi-rigid material.

34. (previously presented) The covering of claim 30 wherein there is a second strip at each location of said first mentioned strips.

35. (previously presented) The covering of claim 34 wherein said second strips are of a different material than said first mentioned strips.

36. (previously presented) A panel for use in a covering for an architectural opening comprising in combination:

a plurality of elongated, parallel, spaced flexible elements, and

at least one rectangular strip of material having an edge and a tab formed along said edge, said tab being coupled to said flexible elements along an interface of said elements with said tab.

37. (previously presented) The panel of claim 36 wherein said tab extends substantially perpendicularly relative to said elements.

38. (previously presented) The panel of claim 36 wherein said elements are monofilaments.

39. (previously presented) The panel of claim 36 wherein said elements are strips of material.

40. (previously presented) The panel of claim 36 wherein said elements are cords of natural fibers.

41. (previously presented) The panel of claim 36 wherein there are a plurality of said rectangular strips of material coupled to said elements at spaced locations along the length of said elements.

42. (previously presented) The panel of claim 41 wherein said rectangular strips of material overlap.

43. (previously presented) A panel for use in a covering for an architectural opening comprising in combination:

a plurality of elongated, flexible elements disposed in parallel relationship in a common plane, and

a plurality of first and second strips of material positioned adjacent to said common plane, each of said first and second strips of material having first and second edges, said first edges of said first and second strips being secured together and being secured to less than all of said flexible elements along first juncture lines with the remainder of the flexible elements passing slidably through said first juncture lines, said second edges of said first and second strips being secured together and being secured to said remainder of the flexible elements, so that the first and second strips of material form a plurality of collapsible cells

therebetween and the flexible elements are operative to selectively collapse the cells by moving said second edges of said strips of material toward said first edges.

44. (previously presented) The panel of claim 43 wherein said first strips of material are on an opposite side of said plane from said second strips of material.

45. (previously presented) The panel of claim 43 wherein said first strips of material are on the same side of said plane as said second strips of material.

46. (previously presented) The panel of claim 44 wherein said first and second strips of material are semi-rigid having fold lines therein.

47. (previously presented) The panel of claim 45 wherein said first and second strips of material are flexible.

48. (previously presented) A panel for use in a covering for an architectural opening comprising in combination:

a plurality of flexible elements disposed in parallel relationship in a common plane,

a plurality of backing strips, and

a plurality of strips of fabric, said strips of fabric being secured to said backing strips along lines of attachment with said flexible elements disposed therebetween.

49. (previously presented) The panel of claim 48 wherein less than all of said flexible elements are secured to said backing strips and strips of fabric along said lines of attachment.

50. (previously presented) The panel of claim 49 wherein the flexible element that are not secured to said backing strips and strips of fabric along said lines of attachment are slidable relative to said backing strips and strips of fabric across said lines of attachment.

51. (previously presented) A panel for a covering for use in an architectural opening comprising in combination:

a vertically suspended flexible support structure,

a set of parallel operating elements disposed in substantially the same plane as said support structure,

at least one strip of material having first and second edges, said first edge being secured to said support structure and said second edge being secured to said operating elements such that movement of said operating elements in a first direction relative to said support structure causes the strip to be in a substantially flat position and substantially in the

same plane as said support structure and said operating elements, and movement of said operating elements in an opposite direction relative to said support structure causes said second edge to be moved toward said first edge.

52. (previously presented) A covering for an architectural opening movable between extended and retracted positions comprising in combination:

a panel of vertically extendable flexible material having an upper edge and a lower edge;

a headrail including a roller about which the panel of material can be wrapped, said upper edge of the panel being secured to the periphery of said roller, and a movable stop; and

a bottom rail secured to the lower edge of said panel, said bottom rail being engageable with said stop in the headrail to arrest rotation of the roller in one direction when the covering is being retracted.

53. (previously presented) A covering for an architectural opening movable between extended and retracted positions comprising in combination:

a panel of vertically extendable, flexible material having an upper edge and a lower edge;

a headrail including a roller about which the panel of material can be wrapped, said upper edge of the panel being secured to the periphery of said roller; and

a bottom rail connected to said lower edge and including at least two component parts pivotally connected together.

54. (previously presented) A covering for an architectural opening movable between extended and retracted positions comprising in combination:

a panel of vertically extendable, flexible material having an upper edge and a lower edge;

a headrail including a roller about which the panel of material can be wrapped, said upper edge of the panel being secured to the periphery of said roller;

said panel including a support structure and a plurality of horizontally extending strips of material supported thereon, said strips having an upper edge secured to said support structure and a movable lower edge and a plurality of operative elements secured to said lower edge of the strips of material and to said roller to selectively move said lower edge of said strips toward the upper edge; and

a bottom rail including a curvilinear surface and further including an element operatively secured to said operative elements and extending around said curvilinear surface before being connected with said support structure whereby said element moves around said curvilinear surface as said lower edge of strips is moved toward the upper edge of said strips.

- 55. (new) The panel of claim 11 wherein said lift elements are strips of material.
- 56. (new) The panel of claim 11 wherein said lift elements are monofilaments.
- 57. (new) The panel of claim 11 wherein said lift elements are made of natural fibers.
- 58. (new) The panel of claim 11 wherein said operating elements are strips of material.
- 59. (new) The panel of claim 11 wherein said operating elements are monofilaments.
- 60. (new) The panel of claim 11 wherein said operating elements are made of natural fibers.